Le Masque

Red Moon Red Night

マスク

It is J.
Le Masque Noir.
The Black Mask

THE...
THE PHANTOM?
YOU REALLY EXIST?
WILL YOU GRANT ME A WISH...?
THEN...
THEN, WILL YOU...
There is something that I want.
YES?
THE BLACK HAIRED PRINCESS?
I want...

A BODY...?
I want a body.
A real body. One that is not sustained by this mask.
YOU WANT ME TO BRING YOU A BODY AS A SACRIFICE?
YOU MEAN...

Do this for me, and I will be able to touch you.
Touch your beautiful golden hair.
Bring me a beautiful human's body. One that's suitable for me.
What is your name?
MICHEL.
IT'S A BOYISH NAME, ISN'T IT?
And of course, the black haired princess, Rina.
I require her power.

MAMA?
MAY I TAKE A REST? MY FEET HURT.
IT WAS MY FATHER'S NAME,
SO...
NOT YET.
A TRUE PERFORMER CAN'T AFFORD TO BE LAZY!
IF YOU DON'T, YOUR FATHER WILL HATE YOU.
BUT...
YOU MUST BECOME A STAR!
UNDER-STAND?
HE WANTED A SON.
HE GAVE ME THIS NAME.
SO YOU SEE, IT WAS MY FATHER.

And you? Do you wish to become a star?
INSTEAD OF A DAUGHTER,
MY LATE MOTHER WISHED FOR THE SAME THING.
HE WANTED A STAR.
HA!
DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE ME.
I DON'T WISH FOR SOMETHING SO MODEST.
AND MY MOTHER WAS THE STAR OF A BALLET COMPANY.
MY FATHER IS THE CHAIRMAN OF THIS SCHOOL,
I CAN HAVE THAT EASILY.

KNOWING THAT, DO YOU THINK YOU CAN GRANT MY WISH?
I like you, Michel.
Tell me. What is your wish?
A MALE VERSION OF MYSELF.
I WANT TO BECOME A MAN.
Hahaha...

You are a strange woman.
The man in you will rule this castle at my side.
A male version of yourself...
Very well, we have a deal.
!
RINA?
RIGHT!
GOOD NIGHT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE? IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR LIGHTS OUT.
OH!

PHANTOM,
DO YOU KNOW?
THE NAMES ARE SIMILAR...
AND IS THERE SOME CONNECTION BETWEEN ME AND THIS PICTURE?
DID MICHEL REALLY GO DOWN TO THE BASEMENT, I WONDER?
CAN I COME SEE YOU?
AH,
THERE IT IS.

PHANTOM...
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO KNOW.
CAN YOU TELL ME?
YOU'VE WATCHED OVER THIS CASTLE FOR ALL THIS TIME...
CAN YOU SENSE ME?

RINA...
?
THE MASK FELL FROM THE WALL.
HOW?
HAS SOMEONE ELSE BEEN HERE?

PHANTOM?
Rina...
PHANTOM!

Rina, come to the black garden.
The garden underground
Ren...
BLACK GARDEN?
Your bed is still empty.
What are you doing, and where?
Day by day, you're changing.
What can I do to return you to the Ren I used to know?
What can I do for you?

MASQUE NOIR,
I WILL GIVE YOU THE THINGS YOU WANT...
AS A SET.
I'LL GIVE THEM TO YOU...
Watch your step, Rina.
WOW...
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

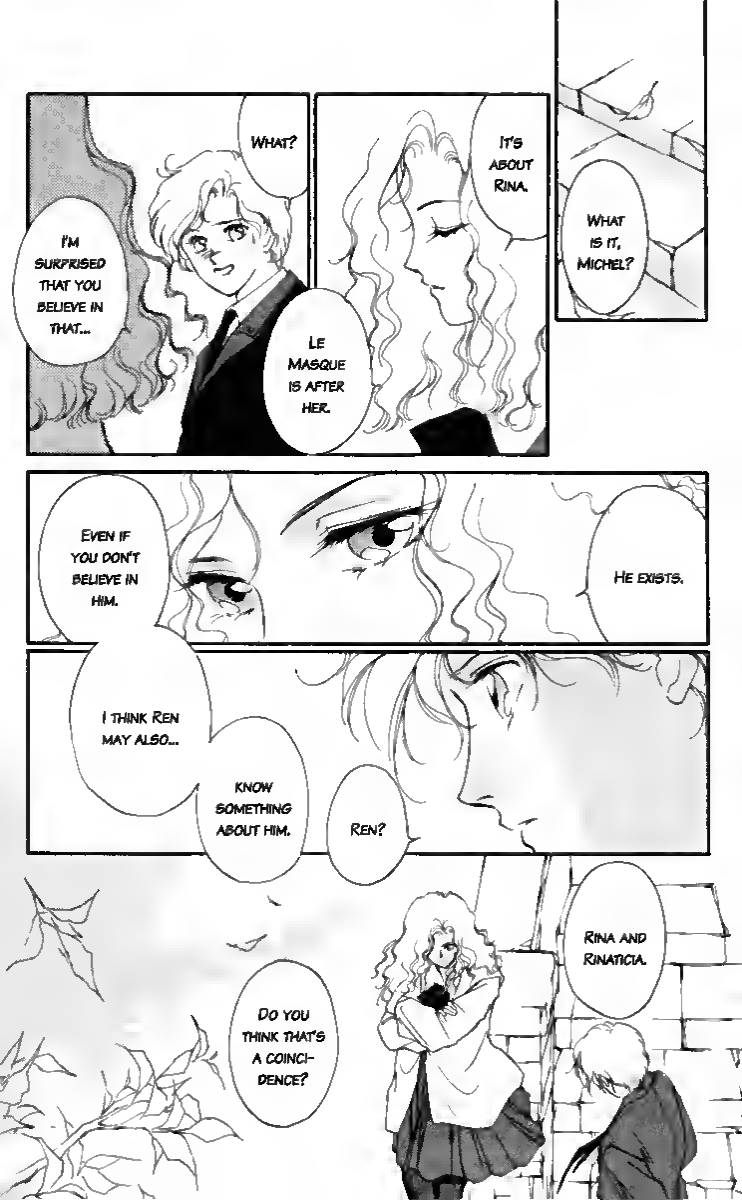
This is the secret lesson room...
It is just for the two of us.
But I'm excited!
It feels a bit scary...
Phantom?
Somehow it reminds me of the old times.
But this room...
And does all that...
Have anything to do with me?
Who told you that?
Was there once a black haired princess in this castle?
Was her name Rina?

YOU CAME TO ME...
WILL YOU GRANT MY WISH?
I will give you anything you want
Because I love you, Rina.
RINA...
DO YOU MEAN ME?
OR RINATICIA?

You, Rina.
PHANTOM,
YOU'RE SO WARM...
GOOD MORNING!
GOOD MORNING!
READY TO GO TO CLASS?
ERM...
HAVE YOU SEEN REN?
GOOD MORNING, RINA.
YURIJ!
NO...
DID YOU NOT FINISH YOUR HOMEWORK?

YURIJ!
WITH REN?
IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG?
I WONDER WHAT HE'S UP TO EVERY NIGHT?
Bonjour! Good day!
THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.
DO YOU MIND?
GOOD MORNING, MICHEL.
SEE YOU LATER, RINA.
This is... Complicated.
JEALOUS.
RINA?
COME ON!

YURU WAS LOOKING FOR YOU EARLIER. AND YOU DON'T LOOK SO GOOD TODAY.
YOU SHOULDN'T WORRY HIM LIKE THAT.
NO WAY!
HAHA, IT WAS A SURPRISE BECAUSE I'M RIGHT,
AREN'T I?
HEY NOW, REN, DON'T SURPRISE ME LIKE THAT!
HUH?
I COULD SAY THE SAME ABOUT YOU, RINA.
REN?
It's bad for your skin
YOU SHOULDN'T STAY OUT LATE AT NIGHT.


What is it, Michel?
It's about Rina.
What?
Le Masque is after her.
I'm surprised that you believe in that...
He exists.
Even if you don't believe in him.
Ren?
I think Ren may also... know something about him.
Rina and Rinaticia.
Do you think that's a coinci-dence?

The phantom loves Rina.
Le Masque wants the black haired princess, Rinaticia.
And Ren...
Does he know anything about that?
There's no stopping human desire.
It will swell, and the darkness will swell with it.
Until at last...

The shadow is in control.
REN...
OH?
I DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE YOU HERE.
MICHEL?
Bonsoir. Good evening
WHERE ARE YOU OFF TO THIS EVENING?
NOWHERE.
I'M JUST OUT FOR A STROLL. I CAN'T SLEEP.
TOO BUSY THINKING ABOUT RINA?
YOU REALLY ARE AN ANNOYING WOMAN.
DO YOU WANT HER?
RINA, I MEAN?

WHAT IS?
TOO BAD. BUT THAT'S OKAY.
NO.
NEVER-MIND.
BETTER WATCH OUT.
THE NUNS MIGHT CATCH YOU...
LE MASQUE,
WHAT IS IT I WANT?
I'VE BECOME RINA'S PHANTOM, AND YET...

I'M ABLE TO PROTECT RINA,
AND SPEND TIME WITH HER.
IT'S ALL GOING JUST AS I'D HOPED IT WOULD.
SO WHY DOES IT HURT SO MUCH?
IS IT...
BECAUSE I FEEL GUILTY ABOUT YURI?
I NEVER WANTED TO STEAL RINA FROM YURI.
I ONLY WANTED TO BECOME RINA'S PHANTOM. FOR RINA.

Soon enough...
You will have to give up that role.
WHAT?
WHO'S THERE?

WHO ARE YOU?
I will eliminate all those who stand in my way.

WHO ARE YOU?
TELL ME!
Again?

UGH...
Well, my friend,
I am...

LE MASQUE?
BUT... BLACK...
That's right.
Le Masque Noir.
The Black Mask.

Well. This should prove interesting.
You escaped?

Please,
Le Masque ...
I have another request of you...
Le Masque...
Why is there another one...?
Give me strength,
Please!

Where are you, Ren Vigou?
Here I am!
Come and get me!

Yes, we both want Rina.
We both are after the black haired princess.
We both need her strength.
But which of us will win her?
Whoever wins Rina...
Will be the true Le Masque!

I will never let you have Rina!
Ha!

The taste of human blood...
It makes me shiver with excitement!
!?
Tch!
Oh, only a graze?

You say you won't let me have her,
and yet all you do is run?

And whose will she be?
Rina won't be yours
Yours?
That's for Rina herself to choose.
Rina..
is not the black haired princess
Rina...
Rina belongs with Yurij.

Then in that case, she will still be mine.
Haha... She's a clever one...
What?
That Michel.

Wait!
What are you talking about?
Masque Noir!
It's dawn.
Unfortunately, we'll have to resume this fight tonight.
Ugh, My arm...
Hrm...
Ren?

WHAT?
OH MY GOD!
ALMOST NOON.
WHAT TIME IS IT?
GOOD MORNING.
?
BECAUSE YOU WERE OUT LATE LAST NIGHT?
WERE YOU CATCHING UP ON SLEEP?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH MY HAND?
I WASN'T OUT LATE LAST NIGHT.
WHAT?

?
That was where I scratched Le Masque Noir last night...
NOTHING.
NEVER-MIND.
No wound?
TELL THEM YOU WERE ILL.
WHAT AM I GOING TO TELL THE TEACHERS?
THIS IS AWFUL!
RINA'S IN THE CAFETERIA.
HURRY DOWN. SHE'S WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
WHAT?

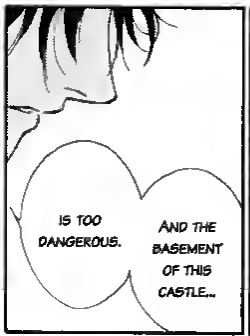
RINA!
YURI!
SORRY ABOUT THIS MORNING...
ARE YOU FEELING BETTER?
OH, DID REN LIE FOR ME?
THE TRUTH IS, I OVER-SLEPT.
OH, WELL....
I'M GLAD IT WAS NOTHING SERIOUS.

YURI?
IS SOMETHING WORRYING YOU?
I DO HAVE A BIT OF A HEADACHE FROM IT, THOUGH.
WHY DO YOU ASK?
SHE CAME TO MY ROOM LAST NIGHT, AFTER LIGHTS OUT...
WELL, MICHEL...
AND SHE TOLD ME THAT...
WELL...
THAT SHE'D TALKED TO YOU...
MICHEL!

Hi♡
Ah, Michel!
Fine.
Huh?
How are you feeling?
Right?
You don't have to worry. Yuri loves you.
Jealous, Rina?
YURI!
When did I return to my room...?

?
You did see her, didn't you?
Oh, Rina.
Don't let Michel get to you.
She's being childish.
Well!
That's really something, coming from you, Ren!
Yuru, your afternoon lessons are over, right?
Huh?
Let's go!
Wah!
Hm.
You come too, Rina.
The teachers say I've improved a lot.

For letting out the secret of the phantom.



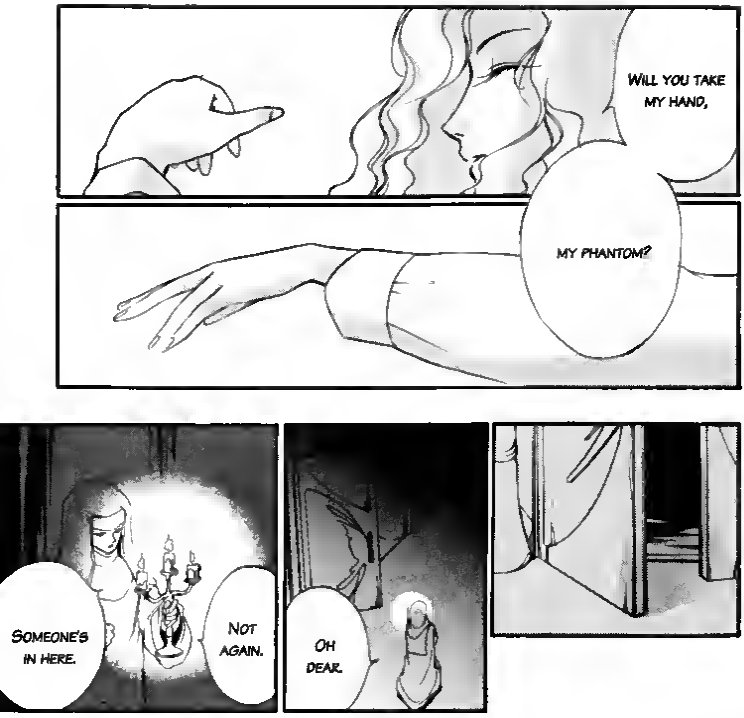
REN?
MY ARM HURTS.
IT'S RISING.
THE RED MOON...

Bonsoir.
Good evening.
Yurij Rattur.

Le Masque Noir.
The Black Mask.

You love Rina.
Do you not?
If you do indeed, then take this mask in your hands.

Splendid, Yuri.
Or shall I say... Le Masque Noir?


WILL YOU TAKE MY HAND,
MY PHANTOM?
SOMEONE'S IN HERE.
NOT AGAIN.
OH DEAR.
WELL?
SHALL WE DANCE?

Oh no! I left the door open!
Is that a nun?
This is–
Hello?
Is someone down here?
If there's someone here, answer me!

Leave this place at once.
WHO-
WHO'S THERE?
WH-
You've violated taboo, sister.
AH!
Next time...
That was only a warning.

I will cut you to pieces!
Dear God...
There is no God.
Not in this castle. There is only the phantom.
One of the nuns is leaving.
Why so suddenly?
I heard she was attacked by Le Masque.
Oh my God!
Really?
Yes, she was in the basement, and he threatened to kill her!
Scary, huh?
That really is scary!
Eek!

I SUPPOSE THAT MEANS RIDLEY WAS TELLING THE TRUTH...
OH NO!
LE MASQUE IS REAL, AND HE'S ATTACKING PEOPLE?
SCARY!
YOU'RE WRONG.
?
IT'S NOT TRUE.

I'M SORRY. IT'S NOTHING.
WHAT'S WRONG?
RINA?
RINA...
DO YOU WANT TO TAKE A BREAK?
NO, I'LL DANCE.
THANKS, YURU.
THEN I'LL BE YOUR PARTNER.
THAT GIRL'S GOT TWO PHANTOMS AFTER HER. YOU SHOULD GIVE UP.

?
HA!
I DON'T BELIEVE IN PHANTOMS!
THEY STILL EXIST, THOUGH.
YOU'RE RIGHT. SHE'S NEVER REALLY STOOD OUT BEFORE.
HER MOVEMENTS SEEM MORE GRACEFUL SOMEHOW.
RINA'S BECOME A LOT BETTER.
Rina's phantom is leading her...

Rina?
Is something the matter?
You don't seem to be focused.
Is there something else on your mind?
Are you thinking about the phantom?
I'm sorry.
And you're taking all this trouble to play my accompaniment.
I'm sorry, Yuriu. Something is wrong with me.

THERE'S NOTHING TO APOLOGIZE FOR...
WELL... IT'S JUST...
DO YOU LIKE THE PHANTOM?
I BELIEVE THAT YOUR PHANTOM REALLY DOES EXIST.
DO YOU REALLY?
IF YOU SAY HE DOES, THEN I DO BELIEVE.
YOU BELIEVE IN HIM?

Well, I suppose.
You're so nice...
Is something wrong?
Why do you ask?
You look pale. Like Ren.
Oh, it's nothing.
Just, at night...
At night?
I don't know. Perhaps I have insomnia?
I guess I'm no longer in any position to criticize Ren...

I CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT I DO AT NIGHT...
COULD IT BE...
YURU...
YES?
WELL,
YURU...
Whose is that face in the mask?
MIGHT YOU BE MY PHANTOM?

HA, IT'S SILLY...
MAY-BE...
I WAS JUST HOPING THAT...
NEVER-MIND.
SORRY.
PARDON?
RINA...

RINATICIA...
RINA...
Who is it...?

Who?
Who is it?
The black haired princess...
Is it me?

Could it
really be me?

WHO?
LADY RINA,
I'VE BROUGHT YOUR MEAL.
AND ALSO, LORD ANDREW IS HERE TODAY.
AH!
RINA!
UM..
Haha!
WERE YOU LONELY HERE, ALL BY YOURSELF?
WHO...?

What is this...?
Rina, I'm so sorry I can't come that often.
So I have to be careful so she doesn't catch me.
Mother won't let me.
Isn't this nice? You can eat your meal with your brother, Lady Rina.

AH...
HERE, I'VE BROUGHT YOU A CHAIR.
Is this a dream?
CAN YOU SEE ME?
SHE CAN'T SPEAK...
AH...
LET'S EAT.
AH...
AH...
WHAT'S WRONG, RINATICIA?

It's...
The mask!
AH...
PHANTOM?

WHAT WAS IT?
IS THERE A CONNECTION BETWEEN ME AND THIS CASTLE?
THAT DREAM...
WHAT WAS THAT?
RINA...
HUH?
THAT CHILD...
WAS ALSO CALLED RINA.

COULD IT BE...?
YURIJ ISN'T HERE?
WAS IT ALL JUST A DREAM?
THE PHANTOM? THE BLACK GARDEN? THAT CHILD...?
Rina...

The night wind isn't good for you, Rina.
It will give you chills.
As a dancer, you need to be more careful.

A black mask?
The phantom?
No... my phantom's mask is white...

This is wrong.

I don't know how I know, but...

It's different.
That black mask...
At last...
I've got you.

MICHEL?
REN.
YOU'RE OUT QUITE LATE.
ISN'T THAT AGAINST SCHOOL RULES?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
OUT OF MY WAY.

No.
I can't let you run to Rina's rescue.
Sorry, Ren.
Michel?
What do you know about that?
What is it that you like about that girl?
She's so young and naïve. The phantom? It's laughable.

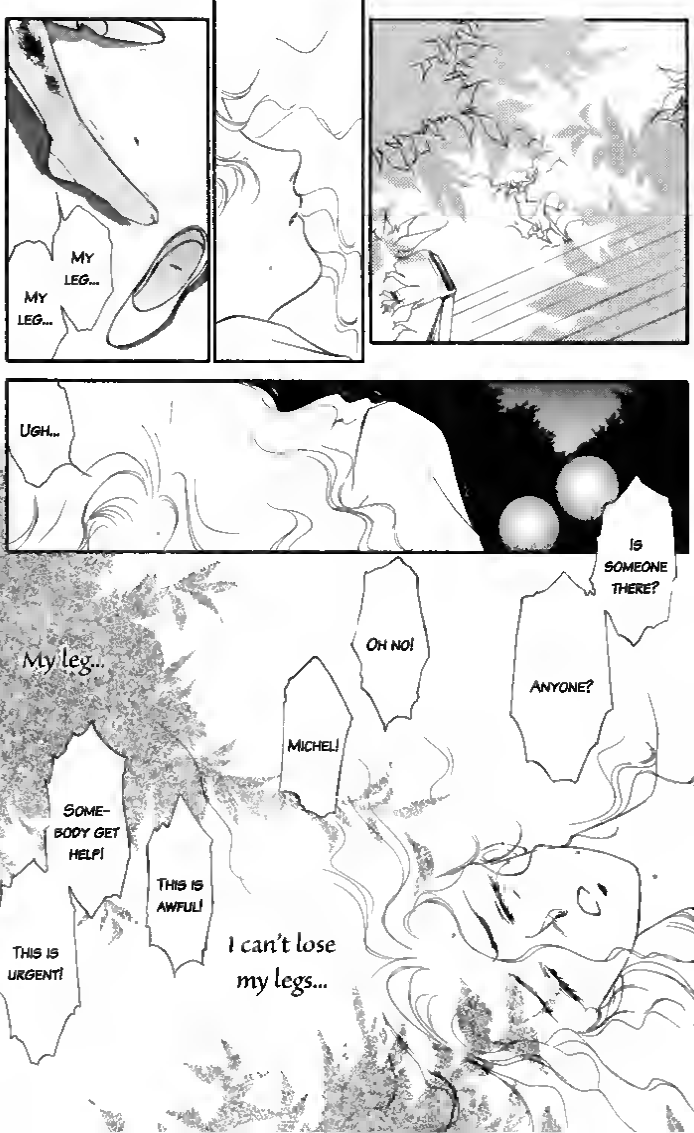
Is something going on with Rina?
Michel...?
Oh, I don't know.
I don't know a thing.
Michel!
Have you done something to her?
Where's Rina?
Hmph.
It's really starting to annoy me.

SHE GETS EVERYTHING SHE COULD EVER WANT WITHOUT EVEN TRYING.
SHE'S GOT NO TALENT AND YET SHE WAS STILL ACCEPTED INTO THIS SCHOOL.
WHY IS THAT!?
WHY DOES SHE ALWAYS GET TO BE HAPPY?
EVERYBODY LOVES HER!
WHY!?
WHAT MAKES HER ANY BETTER THAN ME!?

WHAT IS IT THAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT HER...
THAT EVEN LE MASQUE WANTS HER?
MICHEL!
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HIM?
LE MASQUE NOIR?
I HOPE HE KILLS HER.
MICHEL...
WHAT?
WHAT ELSE DO YOU KNOW?
I'M NOT TELLING YOU A THING!

THE BLACK HAIRED PRINCESS WILL BECOME THE BRIDE OF LE MASQUE NOIR.
OH, BUT...
THERE IS ONE THING I'LL SAY...
YOU SEE, ANDREW, THE LAST MASTER OF THIS CASTLE...
HE LET THE BLACK HAIRED PRINCESS ESCAPE.
THAT'S WHY THE CASTLE FELL TO RUIN.
THIS IS FATE!
DON'T YOU GET THAT, REN?
SHE BELONGS TO HIM!

I HATE HER!
I HATE THAT GIRL!
REN!
WAIT, REN!
UGH...
KYAA!


MY LEG...
MY LEG...
UGH...
IS SOMEONE THERE?
ANYONE?
OH NO!
MICHEL!
My leg...
SOMEBODY GET HELP!
THIS IS AWFUL!
THIS IS URGENT!
I can't lose my legs...

NO...
LE MASQUE...
Twins. Two Rinas.
Black hair and golden hair.
HE DEMANDS SACRIFICE.
I MUST...
LOCK HER UP IN THAT ROOM,
UNTIL SHE TURNS SEVENTEEN.
AND THEN... I WILL SACRIFICE HER TO LE MASQUE.
WHY ARE YOU CRYING, MOTHER?
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING THE BABY?
ANDREW, RINA IS...

The beautiful golden haired Rinaticia was loved by all.
DEAD.
SHE'S ALIVE. SHE'S ALIVE...
WHAT? NO...
Except her black haired twin sister.
HAPPY SEVENTEENTH BIRTHDAY, RINATICIA.
I CAN'T DO IT...
I JUST CAN'T...

LADY RINA?
...?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING...?
YOU'RE DANCING?
TO CHEER ME UP?

WHERE DID YOU LEARN TO DANCE LIKE THAT?
THANK YOU, LADY RINA.
THANK YOU.
?
I TAUGHT HER.
AH...
AH...
LORD ANDREW!
YOUR MOTHER MUST NOT CATCH YOU!
I WANT TO HELP RINA ESCAPE.
I DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO THE CASTLE.
IT'S NOT WORTH LOSING RINA OVER.

Gentle tears...
RUN AWAY, RINA.
What is it, Rina?
Why are you crying?
Memories from the past...
Rina's memories...

And in my veins... The blood of the princess who fled.
At last...
You are mine again.
It has been so long.
Whose is the face beneath that mask?
AH ..
I can't speak?

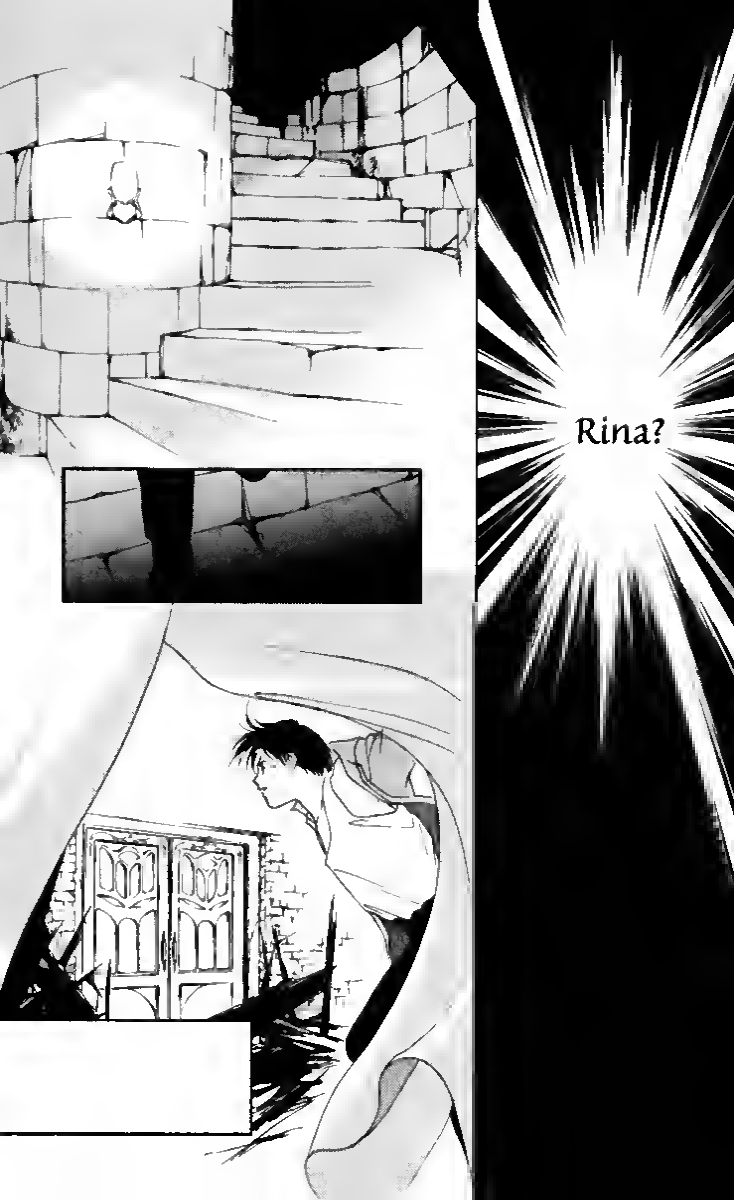
Worry not,
black haired princess.
Now...
There is no need for words.
Why...?
AH...
AH...

Phantom, behind your mask...

The story of the phantom is a tragedy.

I knew that, but I couldn't help being drawn to it.

They're calling for me.
Some-body...
They're...
Some-body...
Crying...
Yurij...


Rina?

You and Le Masque Noir...
What are you doing?
What are you doing to Rina?
Le Masque?
I want to protect her.
I wanted to become her phantom so that I could protect her.
I-I would...
Give my life for her!
Le Masque Noir is...

Rina?
WHAT?
Only the black haired princess can stop him.
My other half.
Yurij!
What is it?

Rina?
Why are you crying?
My head...
What...
My...

Do not interfere, Yurij.
Lend me your body.
Then you shall have your beloved Rina.
Who's there?
Where is that voice coming from?
Do not think, Yurij.

But, Rina...
She's crying.
Who made her cry?
Ri...na...?

What is going on?
AH...
!?
Rina?

What are you doing to Rina?
You are lovely, my Rinaticia.
Stop!

I will... protect Rina.
No!

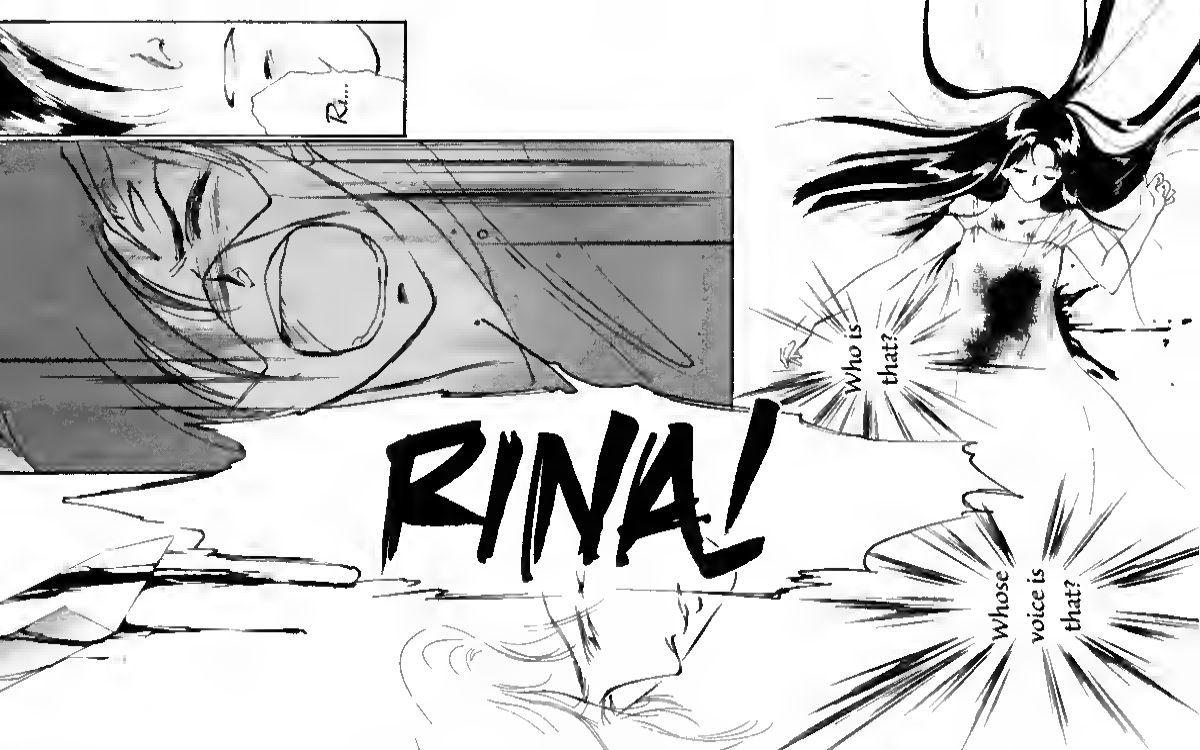
Very well.
Let us end this once and for all.
As you wish!

You are unarmed and wounded.
What chance have you against me?
It's useless, Rina.
Rina..
When he was merely Ren Vigou.
His arm has tasted my sword before.

That's enough!
I told you! It's useless!
What?
Like that?
Why are you looking at me?
You are mine!

The black haired princess owes her blood...
to me, Le Masque Noir!

Bonne nuit.
Good night


Ri...
RINA!
Who is that?
Whose voice is that?

Rina!
Whose is it?
Rina!
Ren?
Rina..
I'll never forgive you, Le Masque Noir
No matter who you may be!

Even if you're in Yurij's body...
I won't forgive you!

Humans are fools.
You can never defeat the darkness.
Yet you still try.
This sword,
stained with Rina's blood,
will also...

finish you.
Running again?

What?
Here I am, Masque Noir!

Why am I bleeding?
Are you sure?
Don't forget. This is Yurij's body.
Is it really you?
Yurij?
But... Why did you...
Why...?

You're too soft, Ren Uigou!
Forgive me, Yurij.
I must defeat Le Masque Noir, no matter what it takes.

Where am I?
Why is it so dark?
Ren?
Is that Ren?
What is going on?
Is it really you?
Ren?

Yuri?
Damn you!
What...
am I...
doing...?
Don't interfere!

Rina?
Rina's...
blood...

Who?
Rina?
Someone is controlling my body...
Give it back!
Let me go!

It's too late to struggle, Yurij.
You became one with me the moment my sword pierced Rina's chest.
I will finally be free of the white mask.
And now, my sword...

This sword...
What?
What are you doing?
It's made of Rina's blood

Ha!
AH ...
RAH HHHH!

Yurij!
Is this your true nature?
Le Masque Noir?
Yes, Ren.
I am Yurij.

These wounds...
Yurij feels them all.
To kill me...
is to kill Yurij.
Now, come.
WHEN WE CAME TO THIS SCHOOL, WE TOLD EACH OTHER OUR DREAMS FOR THE FUTURE.
I'LL DESTROY THOSE DREAMS.

I loved Rina.
I said I wanted only to be her phantom, to protect her.
But I was lying to myself.
I was jealous.
Jealous of you and Rina.
But why did you do it, Yuki?

Ha...
Yurij...
Now...
That sword is mine! Give it to me!
He was jealous of the phantom.
You've removed your mask.
Do you forfeit this match?
TCH!

YURIJ...
Too bad.
And after Rina healed your wound.
Ren!
YURIJ?

It's useless.
You can't do it.
I can't take off the mask.
Before Le Masque Noir takes complete control of me...
Now...
It hurts...
Take Rina's sword...
In your hands...

THIS IS FOR RINA!

Why isn't this body responding?
What?
He's done it!
THIS BODY BELONGS TO ME, YURI.

Which bore people's hatred, regret, sadness and suffering...
The black mask...
Give it to me...

RINA...
Let him...
Be free...

Begone...
Le Masque
Noir...

RINA...
THANK YOU...
YURI...

REN...
TAKE RINA OUT OF HERE.
PLEASE! HURRY!
BUT...!
NO!
NO... YURI...
THIS ROOM...
COL-LAPSE...
IT'S ABOUT TO...
FINE.

RIGHT...
I'LL COME BACK FOR YOU, YURU.
Rina...
I love you.

THE BASE-MENT...
IT'S CAVED IN...
OH NO...!
WHAT WAS THAT?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
CHAIR-MAN.
THE BASEMENT HAS CAVED IN,
WHAT SHALL WE DO?

RINA...
SLEEP WELL, RINA.
I WON'T ABANDON YURIJ.
My phantom, disappearing into the red moon...

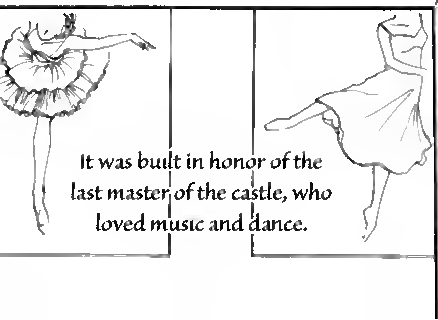
YURIJ.
WE'RE GOING TO BE FINE, YURIJ.
YOU SEE,
THE BLOOD OF THE BLACK HAIRED PRINCESS REALLY DID ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THE CASTLE.
THANK YOU FOR SAVING RINA.

YURU...
I'LL KEEP THE PROMISE I MADE TO YOU...

LUCKY, ISN'T IT?
THERE ARE NO DORMS IN THE SOUTH STRUCTURE.
MICHEL!
HOW'S YOUR LEG?
FINE.

I'LL NEVER BE A STAR NOW.
AT LEAST NOT A DANCING STAR.
BUT THAT'S OKAY.
WHAT DO YOU THINK HAPPENED TO THOSE TWO?
UM,
DO YOU REMEMBER THEM?
MICHEL?
WELL, I KNEW WHO THEY WERE, BUT...
I CAN'T REALLY SAY I KNEW THEM AT ALL.
I'll never forget them.
WELL...
IT'S FOR THE BEST, I THINK.
Hey!♥ Miss me over vacation?

At the top of the hill stands an old castle that serves as a school for those who love the arts.



It was built in honor of the last master of the castle, who loved music and dance.

WOW!
SHE'S A FAMOUS DANCER, ISN'T SHE?
I WANT TO BE JUST LIKE HER!
AH...
THAT'S RINA BERNHARDT.
Inside, there's a secret room.
A LONG TIME AGO, THE OLD STRUCTURE COLLAPSED.
YES. THIS STRUCTURE WAS BUILT TO REPLACE IT.
OH?
HEY,
YES.
THIS STRUCTURE IS NEWER THAN THE OTHER ONES, ISN'T IT?
THERE WAS A SECRET ROOM IN THE BASEMENT.
YOU'D BEST KEEP OUT OF THE BASEMENT.

A secret room guarded by the phantom.
LE MASQUE WILL GET YOU.
YOU LOOK LIKE RINA, SO BE CAREFUL.
LE MASQUE LIKES GIRLS WITH LONG BLACK HAIR.
That room is still there, even now.

Guarded by two phantoms, who
emerge when the moon is red.

Red Moon Red Night / Fin

Le Masque

By Narumi Kakinouchi

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Shoujo Manga Maniac
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Le Masque
Dream

マスク

WOW, RINA-CHAN!
YOU'RE GOING ALL THE WAY TO ANOTHER COUNTRY?
THAT'S EXCITING!
YES, IT IS.
I GUESS.
BUT I'M ALSO A LITTLE SAD.

I WON'T GET TO WATCH YOU DANCE ANYMORE.
KYOKOU-CHAN WAS REALLY IMPRESSED BY YOUR DANCING.
DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN WE PERFORMED IN THAT RECITAL TOGETHER?
WELL...
AND YOUR MOM AND DAD WERE THERE...
I'M JEALOUS, SINCE I DON'T HAVE ANY PARENTS.
THEY LOOKED REALLY PROUD.

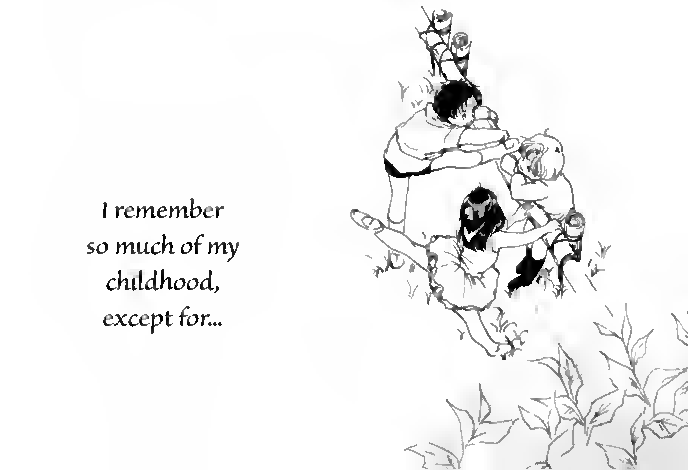
There's a boy there called Yuri. He has blue eyes and golden hair, like the sun.
We're moving to a place with a really nice music hall, way out in the country.
Is he European?
Yes. He said that black hair is really unusual there.
Oh really?
Weird...

He said
black hair was
unusual.

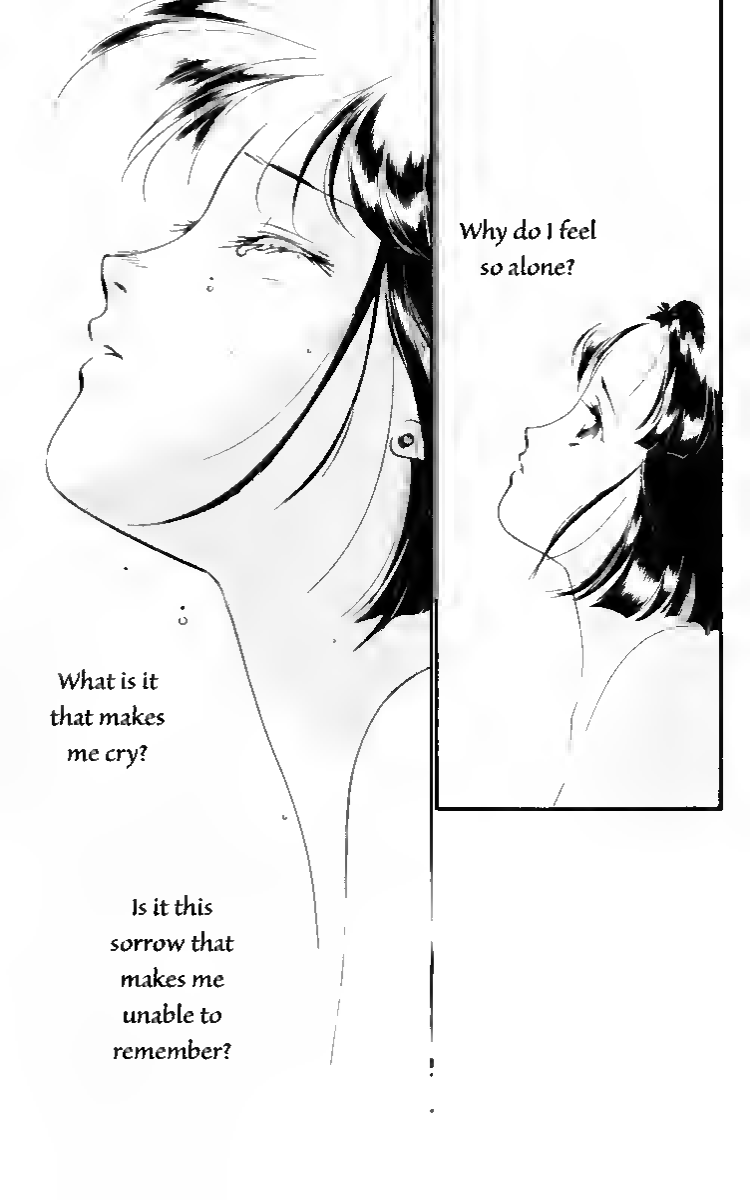
I CUT MY LONG HAIR...
WHO WAS IT THAT SAID THAT?
"Can I touch it?"
WHO TOLD ME THAT BLACK HAIR WAS UNUSUAL?

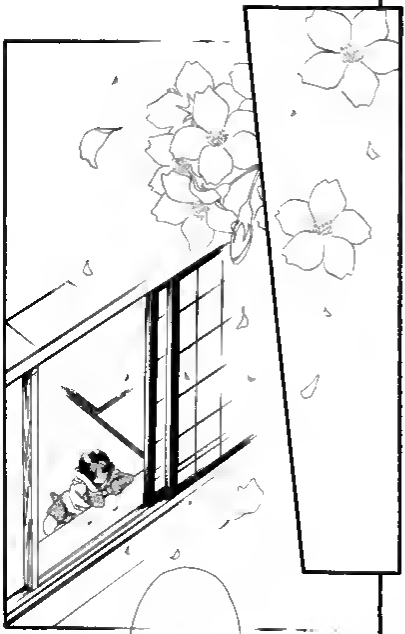
"It's soft..."

It was
a boy...
Who was
that boy?

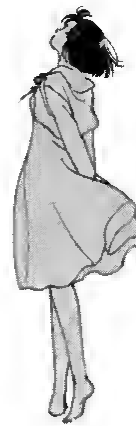

I remember
so much of my
childhood,
except for...

Who are those two boys...?
They always appear in my dreams...


Why do I feel so alone?
What is it that makes me cry?
Is it this sorrow that makes me unable to remember?



The picture of the past is fading.



I remember the cherry blossoms...
I do remember.
How much of it do you remember?
After all, you did only live here until you were in second grade.
It makes me happy to see them all.
And the tatami mats.
Playing by the ocean...
Rina... Why did you cut your hair?

I'M SORRY...
IT'S NOTHING TO APOLOGIZE OVER.
I WAS JUST WONDERING.
WHEN YOU WERE A LITTLE GIRL,
YOU LOVED HAVING VERY LONG HAIR.
AND IT'S PRETTY WHEN A DANCER HAS VERY LONG HAIR...

I was the daughter of a famous opera singer...
Nobody teased me or anything...
I'm proud to be half Japanese.
If something happened in France...
Even a lot of French people had heard of you.
It had nothing to do with that...
I lost something that was very important to me.

SO... I WANTED TO MAKE A CHANGE.
CAUGHT YOU!

NOW YOU'RE "IT," YURIJ!
ALL RIGHT, RINA!
YOU GOT CAUGHT ON PURPOSE, YURIJ!
THAT'S WHAT ALWAYS HAPPENS WHEN RINA IS "IT"!
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO BE SO MEAN, REN?
BECAUSE!
GIRLS ARE SLOW AND WIMPY!

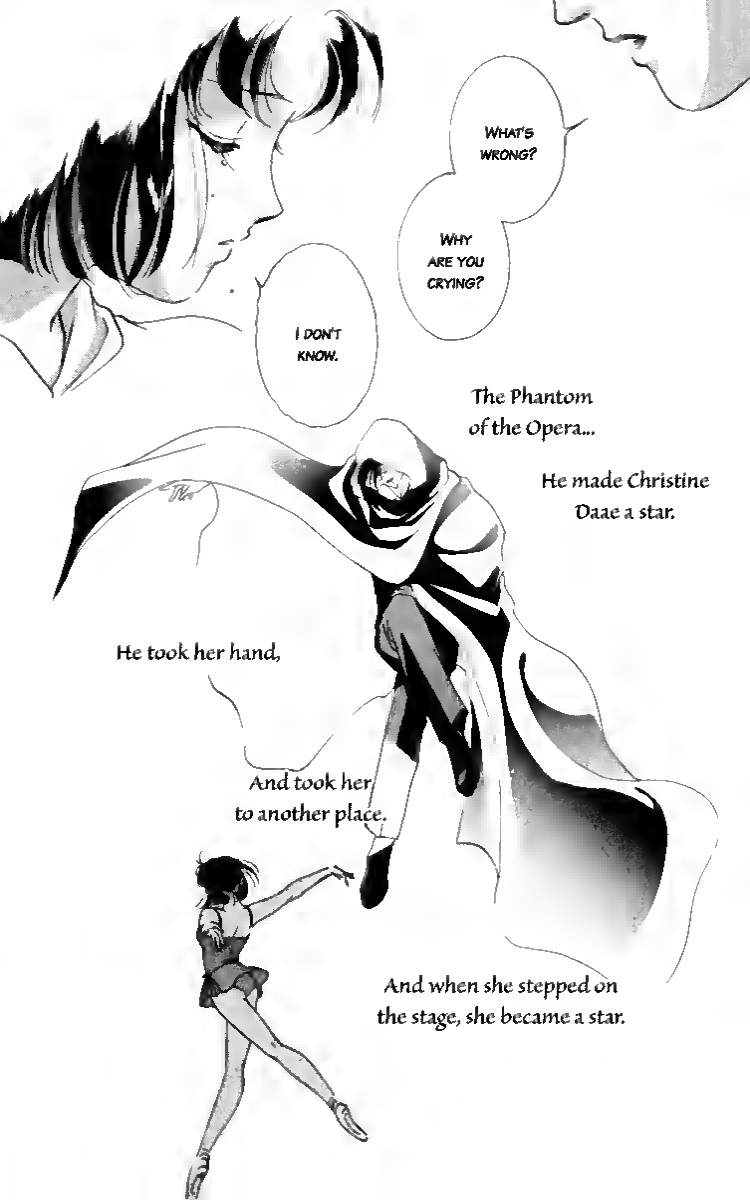
YURU IS A GENTLEMAN!
WELL... GUYS WHO ARE GENTLEMEN ARE STRONGER THAN BRUTES LIKE YOU!
YOU!
YOU'RE A STUPID LITTLE BRAT!
HEY, RINA, LET'S GO TO THE MUSIC HALL! JUST THE TWO OF US.

I'LL PLAY THE PIANO,
AND YOU CAN PRACTICE YOUR STEPS.
YOU'D LIKE TO DANCE ON STAGE, RIGHT?
YEAH!
WHATEVER! DO WHAT YOU LIKE!
MY DAD'S AT HOME, SO NOBODY IS THERE RIGHT NOW.

They were there...

Yurij's piano playing took me to another place...
And Ren taught me to dance like a star.

Don't go...
When I wake up from this dream, you'll both be gone again.
"I love you."
RINA?
Don't go... Please don't go...
They were both my phantoms.


WHAT'S WRONG?
WHY ARE YOU CRYING?
I DON'T KNOW.
The Phantom of the Opera...
He made Christine Daae a star.
He took her hand,
And took her to another place.
And when she stepped on the stage, she became a star.

Come.
Take my hand.
I will guide you.
MOTHER,
I WANT TO GO BACK TO MARSELINA ACADEMY.
You are my angel.

I WANT TO BECOME A STAR.

Le Masque / Fin

Le Masque

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